(b) if so, the number of telephone connections cancelled as a result of this order and how many of those are from the quota allotted to Members of Parliament?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHR P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir. No cancellation orders have been issued. However further action on the provision of telephones under these sanction orders has been kept in abeyance for the present as the whole matter is under review.

(b) Does not arise.

Losses in DTC

281. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Transport Corporation has continuously been running under losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the exact details of the losses suffered by the Corporation during the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) what measures Government propose to adopt to reduce/eliminate the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The net loss incurred by DTC during the last three years is indicated below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Net Loss (including depreciation and interest)
1988-89	9899.32
1989-90	11984.56
1990-91 (Provisional)	19748.35

The reasons for the losses are—

(1) Uneconomic fare structure of DTC.

(2) Rising cost of labour and material inputs.

(3) Concessions given to students and weaker sections of the society through cancessional passes.

(4) Heavy interest burden on loans advanced etc.

(c) Government are continually monitoring the performance of DTC with a view to increase its productivity and to reduce the cost of operations, enforce economy measures, prevent leakages with a view to increase revenue collection and reduce working losses. Rationalisation of routes is another measure which is undertaken by DTC for improving its performance.

Construction of "Toll Highways" by Private Companies

282. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to award the works relating to construction of "toll highways" in the country to private companies;

(b) if so, has any such project been awarded;

(c) whether Government propose to connect Bombay and Ahmedabad by such a highway; and

(d) if so, the present position of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGES) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) No Sir. There is no proposal so far to construct "toll highways" in the country. However, an Expressway is presently under construction from Ahmedabad to Vadodara under normal National Highway allocations. It is too early to indicate whether this will be a tool facility.